



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISKS (SCORE) PROJECT IN UGANDA KEY SCORE ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2017/2018



The Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister Ms. Christine Guwatudde Kintu and UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Rosa Malango present Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Profiles to manage Risk at District Level. This was at the National Emergency Coordination & Operations Centre (NECOC). Looking on is the Commissioner and staff, Disaster Preparedness and Management.

The programme “Strengthening Community resilience to climate change and disaster risks project in Uganda” is implemented by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in conjunction with seven other Ministries, Departments, Agencies and civil society organizations participating as Responsible Parties (RPs). The RPs include Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MFPED), Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and National Planning Authority (NPA).

The overall objective of this programme is that by end 2020, natural resources management and energy access is gender responsive, effective and efficient, reducing emissions, negating the impact of climate-induced disasters and environmental

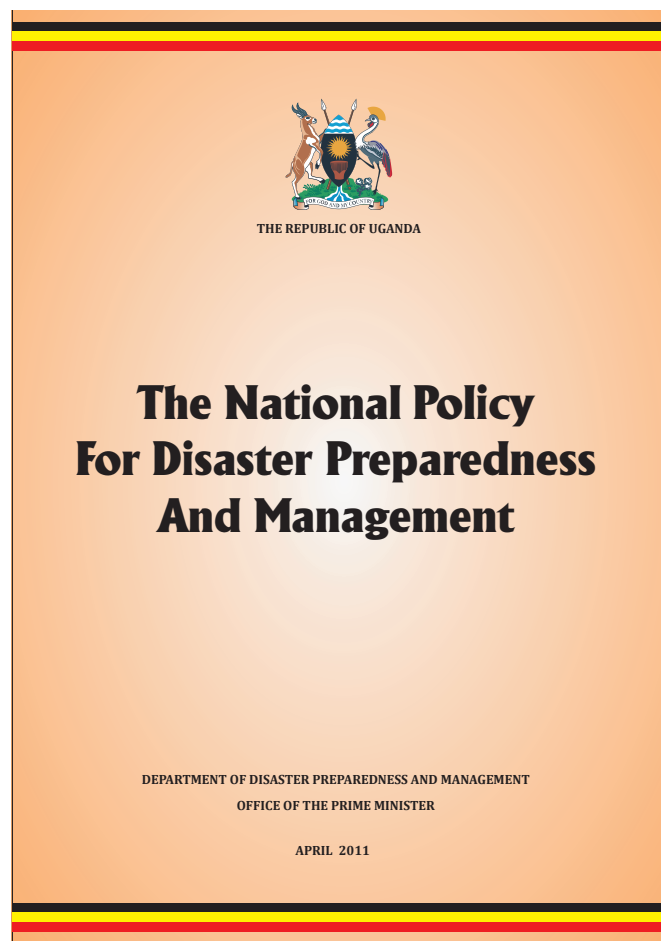
degradation on livelihoods and production systems, and strengthening community resilience. The programme will contribute to adaptation, transformation and resilience building by reducing vulnerability to climate and disaster risk.

The programme was therefore designed to contribute to: (i) strengthened policy response, with special emphasis on integration, resourcing and provision of incentives and deterrents measures; (ii) strengthened national policy implementation capacities with emphasis on partnership building including enhanced role of the private sector, coordination between central and decentralized levels; and (iii) strengthened role, capacity, resourcing and accountability of Local Governments in the processes of domestication of technologies and good practices as well as building of strong community resilience to climate change and other disasters.

SCORE has already registered tremendous progress in the attainment of its goal and objectives. Below are some of the achievements for the period 2017-2018

A) RESULT AREA 1: STRENGTHENED POLICY RESPONSE

A1) Enhanced policy, legal and regulatory framework for CCR/ DRR



1. Approved in 2011, **The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management** was reviewed by the technical team to provide for the numerous changes that have occurred in the disaster risk reduction and management field, both at national and global levels. These changes include the new global DRR Framework, the Sendai Framework 2015-30 that replaced the Hyogo Framework for DRR 2005-2015 in addition to the Sustainable Development Goals. At the National level, a new development framework the National Development Plan III and legislation on disaster preparedness and management are in the pipeline. There was also an urgent need than never before to incorporate the current and foreseen effects of climate change and their relationship to disaster risk management. The reviewed version will now be presented to Senior Management Team

2. Drafted the Principles of the **National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill**. This bill will legislate on the provisions of the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy, as well as other disaster management related issues in the country.

3. Updated existing **hazard, risk and vulnerability profiles** for 112 districts to enhance efforts towards disaster risk management. The hazards covered included: floods, drought, hailstorms, wind loads, landslides, and earthquakes among others. This is now informing the national risk atlas.

4. Finalized the **Climate change bill** (including consultations. Currently, comments from the cabinet are being addressed before submission to parliament.



5. Sensitized National stakeholders on **climate change sensitive sections of the National Urban Policy**, National Housing Policy and National Land Policy. Participants included Urban leaders and technical staff such as Physical Planners, Environmental officers, Registrar of titles, Town Clerks and Valuers from urban areas of Kampala, Gulu, Lira, Arua, Kabale, Entebbe, Jinja, Mbale, Moroto, Tororo, Fort Portal, Hoima, Masaka, Mbarara, Soroti, Nansana, Lugazi, Kasese, Bushenyi-Ishaka, Iganga and Masindi.



Mr. Kaganzi Emmanuel Ag.CPP making a presentation on urbanization and climate change during the workshop

The issues of focus included: Climate change concerns in urban areas and the need for mitigation and Resilience, National Climate Change Policy, The role of Physical Planning in Climate Change mitigation and resilience building among others.

6. Undertook a **Refresher training for Registrars, Physical planners, Town Clerks and Surveyors** on the protection of climate sensitive areas. Participants were also taken through the Physical Planning Standards, Guidelines and Regulations.

A2) Government meets regional and global commitments for environment, CCR/DRR and influences policy, financing

1. Organized and facilitated participation in the **Global Platform for DRR in Mexico** where participants presented progress on Disaster Risk Reduction interventions in Uganda and also participated as a member state.

2. Developed a draft **National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP)**. This involved stakeholder consultations in the Albertine Region and DRR Platform.

3. Facilitated participation of Ugandan Delegation to **COP23 and COP24 Bonn sessions**.

The meetings comprised sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), as well as sessions of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement.



Commissioner Climate Change Department Ministry of Water and Environment, Chebet Maikut during a panel discussion on Uganda's NDC Partnership Plan

4. Organized and facilitated an exposure visit of an **inter-ministerial delegation to Sri Lanka to benchmark preparedness, Early Warning best practices**. The delegation comprised UNDP, OPM/NECOC, MAAIF and UNMA officials



Officials at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Disaster Management Center,

At the end of the mission, the Ugandan team was able to learn about relief distribution and the National Natural Disaster Insurance Policy which safeguard people's property and assets. The team was also able to appreciate some simple approaches, structures and frameworks that support the DRR initiatives of the country with minimum costs



Officials observing a school landslide mitigation project, Kandy, central Province, Sri Lanka

All this enabled OPM develop a roadmap to support short, medium- and long-term planning for NECOC and early warning systems.

5. Organized participation of Uganda in **Africa Arab DRR platform** in Tunisia.

A3) Climate change response and Disaster Risk Reduction integrated and mainstreamed in policies, plans and budgets of MDAs and local governments.

1. Developed the **National Vulnerability and Disaster Risk Atlas (NVDRA)** to guide and support decision makers to make evidence based, risk informed investment and planning decisions, including: development planning, land use and disaster risk reduction planning.



Technical working group during a hands-on exercise in disaster risk assessment

“There is need for Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to visualize the importance of the Risk Atlas and put it to full use”,

Mr. Martin Owor, Commissioner Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Management at one of the Technical Working Group sessions.

2. Held **climate change compliance assessment** workshops for Sector Development Plans where the assessment on the extent of compliance of the water and environment sector budget to the National Development Plan was presented.

3. **Trained local government sectoral / technical heads of departments of the newly created districts on the integration of climate change** in district development planning and budgeting. The districts included Kagadi, Kakumiro, Rukiga, Rubanda, Bunyangabu, Pakwach, Omoro, Namisindwa and Butebo. Continuous training will be needed since most of these districts are still relying on the technical staff of former mother districts from which they were carved. As such, the new staff to be recruited will also need a similar training.

A.4) Enhanced financing capacity for Climate change and disaster risk reduction

1. Prepared **project proposals** to GCF on wetlands management and NAMAs on Agriculture and Transport all of which have received funding and are being implemented.

2. Held 1 **Nationally Designated Agencies committee** meeting where members of the committee and representatives from different local Governments were updated of the recent developments and emerging opportunities in climate finance and how to accelerate access to it. New submissions that have been made for consideration by the committee were reviewed.

- » *Climate change and disaster, being complex phenomena, keep evolving and so does knowledge and strategic initiatives to counter them. It is therefore important to revise the national policy and regulatory frameworks to provide for such changes*
- » *The conversations at global and regional levels need to be simplified and made available to national stakeholders at all levels including private sector to allow scaling up*
- » *There is need to plan for capacity building in integrating climate change and DRR in development planning and budgeting for newly recruited officers for the new districts*

B) RESULT AREA 2: STRENGTHENED TECHNICAL, OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITIES

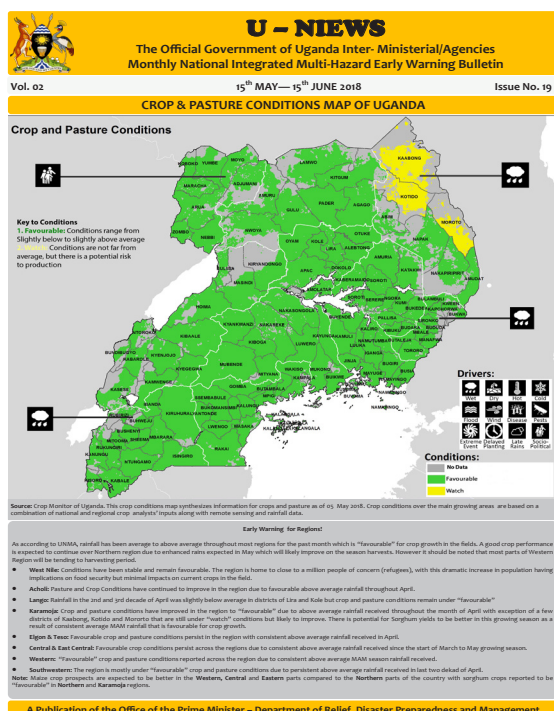
B1) Disaster risk governance enhanced through improved coordination, information sharing and inclusive participation

1. Held **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Platform** meetings where rapid assessments in times of emergency were conducted, contingency plans for anticipated disasters developed and knowledge on innovations shared among practitioners. The minutes of the meetings are also available on <http://www.necoc-opm.go.ug/national-platform.html>.

2. Supported the running of the **National Emergency Coordination Centre**

B2: A strengthened and integrated functional climate information, early warning and response system established

1. Uganda **Inter- Ministerial/Agencies Monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning (U-NIEWS)** bulletins were developed and disseminated on the 15th of every month. The U-NIEWS bulletin aims to provide multi-hazard early warnings to partners and the general public. It presents conditions of crops and pasture, food insecurity, weather/ climate forecasts, anticipated disasters in addition to disaster and humanitarian response status updates. So far 24 Issues have been developed and disseminated using various platforms including the District Disaster Management Committees at the local level. The U-NIEWS can also be found on <http://www.necoc-opm.go.ug/bulletins.php>.



2. Carried out **data rescue and digitization** to enable proper storage and access of available weather data hence improving UNMA's database.



Clerks sorting station data

B3) Strengthened Capacities of Cities for Resilient Development

1. Developed **National Urban Climate Change Profiles** that detail the linkages between urbanization, climate change and sustainable development. The profiles will inform development planning.

'It is necessary to have a designated climate change officer at local government levels to handle climate change issues since climate change is not only an environment issue but also cuts across issues like energy, transport, water etc'-

Dr. Revocatus Twinomuhangi, at the validation of the National Urban Climate change Profile

2. Organized and facilitated a **bench marking visit on urban and physical planning** in Sri Lanka

3. Currently preparing **guidelines for integrating climate change in the lands, housing and urban development sector**; and urban local government plans and budgets

- » *There is need to leverage the climate DRR platform for sharing success stories and knowledge.*
- » *There is still a challenge of reaching communities with early warning and weather information*
- » *The guidelines for integrating climate change into development planning do not explicitly provide for DRR.*

C) RESULT AREA 3: STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES TO ADOPT EMERGING LOW CARBON AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE TECHNOLOGIES AND METHODS

C1: Functional partnerships and platforms established between MDAs, LGs, CSOs and private sector

Organised the 1st National Climate Change Low Carbon and Adaptation Symposium and Expo under Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) This was in partnership with Ministry of Water and Environment (Climate Change



Department (CCD)), KFM, NTV, UNDP, Agricultural Business Initiative (aBi), UCDA and USAID. The one day Symposium comprised a wide range of agenda items namely remarks from key development partners, a panel discussion, exhibition stalls, climate change initiative papers, presentations and climate change videos which all focused on the current climate change context, the mitigations required to conserve and preserve the climate and key recommendations. The aim was to showcase, share information and foster deliberations on how the country can adapt to the impacts of climate change while pursuing a low carbon development pathway



Some of the adaptation and mitigation technologies and methods showcased

'We all have the moral responsibility to utilize our God given nature like land and other natural resources responsibly,'

Mr. Chebet, Commissioner Climate Change Department at the Low Carbon Symposium

C2) Capacity built among MDAs for public and social engagement, technological transfer, training, awareness creation and advocacy on CCR/DRR

1. Held a Capacity building workshop for UNMA Forecasters in advanced forecasting techniques, numerical weather prediction and data analysis and management

- » SCORE Project is being recognised by other players in the climate change and disaster risk reduction space. It participated in the National Dialogue on Climate Resilience organised by Climate Action Network Uganda (CANU) and Environment and Natural Resources Network
- » Some of the designated climate change focal persons in different MDAs need capacity building in climate and DRR issues as they may not necessarily be professionals in the same

D) RESULT AREA 4: RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND MOBILIZE SOCIETAL RESPONSE TOWARDS BUILDING RESILIENCE

D1: Mass Public awareness created on CCR, early warning and disaster risk reduction and technologies

1 Held a training for UPDF, Police, Prisons and other security organs in the management of disasters occasioned by chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) and other explosives



Hands on exercise during the CBRN training assessment

2. Held a **Media (Editors and Sub Editors) practitioners awareness breakfast meeting** on climate change and DRR so as to ensure increased production and dissemination of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction information through various media channels.

3. Organized **National Climate Change Platform** Meetings. These aim at strengthening coordination of climate change issues through joint planning and progress reviews in addition to sharing experience on climate change action.

4. Held **National Climate Change Forums** to develop a harmonized country's position for COP 23 and COP 24. These engaged participants from national level, district local governments, youths, civil society organizations, media among others

5 Supported national observance of the **International Day for Disaster Reduction 2017 and 2018**



Ms. Rosa Malango, United Nations Resident Coordinator plants a tree at Kazinga Primary School in Kyegegwa District- IDRR day 2017

6. Organized a conference on youth participation in Climate Change response, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Sustainable Development Goals agenda. The theme of the conference was: 'Youths propelling climate action and SDGs to fulfillment'



"Every young person needs to draw a personal program of planting trees for example at every milestone in life like birthdays, Graduation, marriage..."

Rt. Hon. Rebecca A. Kadaga
Speaker of parliament of Uganda

D2: Enhanced ecosystem-based adaptation approaches

Supported the launch of the **National Adaptation Planning (NAP)** Process, a means of identifying medium and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programs to address those needs.

In general:

- » It is important to have alternate focal persons for the partners to allow for continuity in case there are staffing changes
- » For activities that involve a number of partners for example the National Youth Conference, it is important to start the planning processes early enough to allow for effective and efficient delivery
- » Taking cognizance of periods for routine work at partner institutions like budget preparation for MFPED and Conference of Parties for MWE, it is important to schedule activities outside these dates for better planning and delivery
- » Adaptive and reflexive planning is very essential to provide for the changing priorities of partners as long as these are still in line with the project goal
- » For sustainability purposes, it is useful to leverage already existing government resources for some activities and project support. An example is the NECOC website that can be hosted by NITA



Uganda Disaster Risk Information Centre

Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management
National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre



Officials at a bench marking visit on urban and physical planning in Srilanka



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